

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Block Island School

February 8, 2010

7:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, February 8, 2010, in the media center of the Block Island School. Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Annie Hall, Sean McGarry, William Padien, and Richard Tretheway. Shea Butcher was not in attendance. Robert Hicks was also present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the minutes of the meetings held on January 7, January 11, and January 19, 2010, as presented carried with a vote of 4-0.

Reports

Mr. Hicks submitted a memorandum regarding the recently released results of the 2009 administration of the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) in reading, math, and writing. He also submitted New Shoreham's results for 2005 through the current year 2009. The results of these tests are used in the No Child Left Behind accountability determination according to an index system separate from the proficiency scoring. New Shoreham's results have been relatively stable with a slight upward trend in writing. Complete

results are available at the Rhode Island Department of Education web site.

Old Business

A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve Policy GK: Respectful and Peaceful School Community as posted carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to open the public hearing on the 2010-2011 general operating budget carried with a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Hicks submitted an updated budget based on changes suggested at the previous budget workshops held on January 19 and February 2. He recommended the following budget increases:

- Adding two positions for coordinating and running “enrichment” activities with a stipend commensurate with head coach positions (\$5,169 with FICA). Emphasis would be during the winter sports season when schedule disruption is the greatest.**
- Increasing the student travel budget by \$6,800. This would include \$3,000 for Close-Up with the remainder for the activities program.**
- Increasing the repair line item by \$8,000.**
- Including \$3,121 in the miscellaneous expense line for unknown obligations.**

The increases were balanced by the following reductions:

- Reduce school lunch support by \$2,822.**
- Reduce unemployment insurance by \$5,000.**

- **Reduce health and dental insurance by \$19,108 by switching from the school plan to the town plan and increasing the co-pay rate projection for health insurance from five percent to ten percent.**

Representatives from Block Island Maritime Institute spoke in support of the athletic director's request to include sailing as a new sport for the 2010-11 school year by pledging boats, etc. They are working with the Block Island Club to increase the inventory of boats.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to close the public hearing on the 2010-2011 general operating budget carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to adopt the finalized 2010-2011 general operating budget as proposed by the Superintendent in the amount of \$4,466,586 requiring a local appropriation of \$4,343,549 and authorize him to transmit the budget to the Town Manager as required carried with a vote of 4-0.

New Business

Mr. Hicks did not recommend the non-renewal of any teaching contracts.

Calendar of Events

A calendar of events for the months of February and March was submitted for School Committee information. The next regular meeting of the School Committee is scheduled for March 15, 2010.

Mr. Hicks reported that the Town Council will be working on the 2010-2011 budget at meetings/work sessions scheduled for March 1, 3, and 31. The public hearing and adoption of the budget is scheduled for Monday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion (Padien, Hall), at the request of Mr. Hicks, to move the July meeting date from the 19th to the 26th carried with a vote of 4-0.

Correspondence

Mr. Hicks submitted a copy of the letter he sent to each of the students regarding the exceptional essays they wrote on their favorite Block Island places.

Executive Session

A motion (Padien, Hall) to go into executive session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws 42-46-4, 5(a)(2) for contract negotiations and (8) for a student issue/parent appeal carried with a vote of 4-0. It was noted for the record that the parent/student had been notified of the School Committee's intent to discuss the appeal in executive session.

Open Session

A motion (Padien, Hall) to return to open session carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to seal the minutes of the executive session

carried with a vote of 4-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to deny the parent's requested appeal carried with a vote of 4-0.

Adjournment

A motion (Padien, Hall) at 8:30 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 4-0.

Sean McGarry, Secretary

Date approved: March 22, 2010